

Testimony in Support of HB 6195

I am RoAnne Chaney, Health Policy Project Manager with the Michigan Disability Rights Coalition

The Michigan Quality Community Care Council was created several years ago when 15 senior and disability rights groups came together to advocate for a statewide entity to help link people needing home care and supports with available workers. The MQC3 and its registry of workers and providers were created as a response to this advocacy.

Prior to the creation of a registry, people in need of a home care worker through the Home Help program had limited or no ability to locate workers and providers. The MQC3 provides a registry that links seniors and persons with disabilities who are looking for home care and supports to qualified workers and providers in their area.

The MQC3 has allowed seniors and persons with disabilities to remain healthy and independent in their own homes.

Adding a basic level of security MQC3 home care workers on the state's registry have been subject to background checks, rigorous screening and are offered training to enhance the ability of seniors and persons with disabilities to receive safe, high-quality care.

Based on my professional and personal experience I know long-term care is an issue that affects thousands upon thousands of Michigan families. Most of us know someone who requires assistance and supports with daily living, whether it's due to advanced age or a disability.

The MQC3 needs to be protected and strengthened.

We need HB 6195

- To allow low income seniors and persons with disabilities to remain healthy and independent in their own homes instead of forcing them into restrictive settings.
- To ensure that consumer choice, background checks and cost savings continue into the future.

Thank you.